



RESPONSES:

Response to IDS/question #8

The invention has never been patented, described in printed publication, or sold.

Response to IDS/question #9

Matsuda discloses a method of displaying a virtual reality environment on the web with VRML, not with Java and HTML with embedded data. For your information, people have been using VRML to display virtual reality environment on the web many years, even before Matsuda filed the application. It requires a special plug-in and/or VRML browser and the files are usually very big, not convenient for dial-up users.

Response to IDS/question #10, #11, #12

Matsuda disclosed a method of displaying a virtual reality environment on the web with VRML, not with Java and HTML with embedded data. For your information, displaying a virtual reality environment on the web with VRML is widely known and people have been using it for so many years, even before Matsuda filed his patent. However, to display a virtual reality environment on the web with VRML, a user needs a special VRML plug-in or a special VRML browser. Additionally, VRML files are usually big, which is not preferable for people without a high speed Internet access.

The technology disclosed in this patent application allows users using an ordinary Java-enabled browser to view virtual reality environments enabled websites via the Internet, even without special plug-in or software ("client apparatus" in Matsuda's term), or high-speed Internet access.